3rd December 1954]

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" From the statement furnished by the Hon. Minister we are not able to find the reason why fire stations are located only in some places. May I know what is the policy of the Government in having fire stations only in municipal areas and that too only in some of them? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The target is to have fire stations in all municipal areas. Even with reference to that, I think 11 municipalities have yet to be provided with fire stations. As soon as that is over, we shall take steps to provide fire stations in major panchayats."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" From the list furnished, it is seen that all the stations are located only in municipal areas. In view of the fact that combustible materials are used only in villages, will the Government consider the desirability of locating these fire stations in village parts? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. The likelihood of fire accidents occurring is more in congested urban areas. That is why it is necessary to provide fire stations in urban areas."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" Will the Hon. Minister consider locating fire stations in panchayats if they come forward to give contributions? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. The first priority is to provide fire stations in all municipal areas. There are 11 more municipal areas to be provided with fire stations. As soon as that programme is completed, we shall take up the panchayats."

Referring for adjudication certain disputes concerning hotel workers.

* 30 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to answer to unstarred question No. 16, dated 19th March 1954, the special reasons for not referring for adjudication the 22 disputes concerning hotel workers in the City of Madras recommended by the Labour officers in the years 1950–53?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The answer[a] is placed on the table of the House."

Construction of additional blocks in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode.

* 28 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the present stage of the proposal for constructing additional blocks in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode?

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 98–100 infra.